

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. This application is in condition for allowance except for the presence of claims 2-5 and 10-11 directed to an non-elected invention without traverse. Accordingly, claims 2-5 and 10-11 been cancelled.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Claims 1, 6-8 are pending. Claims 2-5, and 9-11 are cancelled.

Claims 1 and 6-8 are drawn to determining increased risk of endometriosis in a human comprising measuring an expression level of histamine releasing factor polynucleotide in menstrual blood and comparing the level to a normal biological sample, wherein a higher expression level indicates an increased risk of endometriosis.

The art at the time of filing did not teach nor suggest the claimed method.

The current claim amendments are commensurate in scope with the Scope of Enablement provided in the previous office action (10/23/2009).

As such Claims 1 and 6-8 are allowable.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to KATHERINE SALMON whose telephone number is

(571)272-3316. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 9AM-530PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dave Nguyen can be reached on (571) 272-0731. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Katherine Salmon

/Sarae Bausch/
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